(c) if the answer to (a) above be in the negative, what steps Government propose to take to promote tourism in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the year 1991-92, 20 tourism projects estimated at Rs. 234.00 lakhs have been prioritised for extending financial assistance to the Government of Bihar. 10 projects are connected with the development of places of religious and historical importance.

(c) Does not arise.

Shortage of Power in the Capital

102. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA:

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

SHRI SHANTI TYAGI:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON - CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been heavy load shedding and break-down in the capital during the current summer season;

(b) if so, what were the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are aware that a large volume of DESU electricity is stolen through unauthorised connections with the connivance of its own staff;

(d) if so, what action Government have taken to prevent the theft of electricity in the capital; and

(e) what action Government propose to take to improve the power position in the capital and by when it would be accomplished?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b) The power supply position in Delhi during the current summer season has been by and large satisfactory. The minor shortfalls of 1.5 per cent in the availability of energy and 3.7 to 10.1 per cent in the peak load during April—June, 1991 were met by suitable load management and enforcing peak period restrictions.

(c) and (d) Some cases of theft of electricity have been detected by DESU in various parts of Delhi during the raids conducted by them. Periodical surprise raids are carried out by DESU to check illegal use of electricity including theft of power which has been made a cognizable offence under the Indian Electricity Act, 1910. As a result of this, DESU has been able to reduce its Transmission and Distribution losses from 28.3 per cent in 1987-88 to about 19 per cent in 1990-91.

(e) The steps taken to improve the power supply position in Delhi include strengthening and augmentation of transmission and distribution system at various voltage levels, installation of 3x34.07 MW Waste Heat Recovery Units at the existing Gas Turbines of DESU and a 400 KV Transmision Ring around Delhi. Setting up of a 800 MW Gas based Power Station in Delhi is also envisaged in the 8th Plan subject to the availability of resources.

ONGC Projects

103. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ONGC had sought for funding from international sources for its projects a few months ago;